

Social Multi-Criteria Evaluation

The Decision Analysis Lab specialises in Social Multi-Criteria Evaluation (SMCE), a methodology that supports complex decision-making involving multiple stakeholders, conflicting objectives, and uncertainties.

SMCE is particularly effective for ex-ante impact assessments, offering a multidisciplinary, transparent, and participatory framework for assessing and comparing policy options.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- Develop and promote a consistent and transparent methodology for comparing policy options in an integrated framework.
- Advance the scientific field of multi-criteria decision analysis in terms of theory, tools and applications.
- Enhance and upgrade the SOCRATES software to support sophisticated policy analysis.

SOCRATES

SOCRATES, a software tool developed by the Decision Analysis Lab, facilitates the SMCE practical application. It helps to structure problems using dimensions, objectives, and criteria, to clarify weighting relationships, and to perform sensitivity analyses.

SOCRATES is instrumental for evidence-based policymaking, offering a fast, reliable platform for transparent analysis and comparison of diverse impacts in a structured, integrated way, handling all required calculations. It is included in the European Commission's Toolbox for Better Regulation (Tool #62).

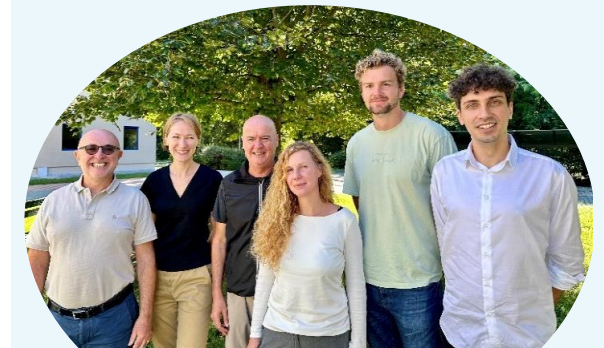


Explore SOCRATES,
our free, publicly available
online software tool



Team

We are a dynamic team of practice-oriented researchers focused on innovative decision frameworks and tools for public policies. We conduct methodological and applied research, producing publications, guidelines, and software to advance SMCE. We also support SMCE implementation across policy areas such as health, energy, and environment and provide training courses on its use for policy assessment.



Reach out to us!
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Current Activities



Research and Development

- SOCRATES
- SMCE applications
- Small modular reactors
- AI-enabled decision aid

Engagement with Scientific Networks



- European Working Group on Multi-Criteria Decision Aid
- Helmholtz working group on MCDA for Sustainability Assessment



Enhancing SMCE Use in Policymaking

- Training courses
- Guides and templates
- SMCE knowledge graph
- Community of practice

Support to Impact Assessment



- European Commission's policy departments
- UN International Atomic Energy Agency



Science for policy

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) provides independent, evidence-based knowledge and science, supporting EU policies to positively impact society

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Decision Analysis Lab